

Message Text

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ORIGIN AID-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 EA-07 ISO-00 AF-05 /026 R

66616

DRAFTED BY: AF/CWR/SDE/HFARNHAM

12/5/73 EXT 29346

AFR/CWR/FJSPENCER

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION: 7C ACTION AFR CHRON 2 16P

----- 047930

R 052051Z DEC 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

UNCLAS STATE 238135

AF DROUGHT

WELLINGTON FOR MAURICE J. WILLIAMS

E.O. 11652: N/A

THE FOLLOWING TEL FROM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK DATED
NOV 28, 1973 TO SECSTATE WASHDC INFO GENEVA ROME NIAMEY NDJAMENA
BAMAKO NOUAKCHOTT DAKAR OUAGADOUGOU IS REPTED:

QTE UNCLAS USUN 5190

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, AFDROUGHT

UNCLASSIFIED

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SUBJ: SECRETARY-GENERAL'S APPEAL FOR FAO SAHELIAN ZONE
DROUGHT FUND

1. UNSYG MORSE'S OFFICE PASSED TO MISOFF TEXT OF APPEAL

BEING MADE BY SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR \$30 MILLION OF CONTRIBUTIONS TO FAO SAHELIAN ZONE DROUGHT FUND. THE TEXT OF THE APPEAL CONTAINS BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND AN EXPLANATION OF THE COMPUTATION USED TO ARRIVE AT THE FIGURE OF \$30 MILLION. MORSE'S OFFICE ALSO INFORMED MISOFF THAT SYG PLANNING TO CONVENE IN LATE MARCH OR EARLY APRIL 1974 A DONORS CONFERENCE ON PROGRAM FOR THE MEDIUM AND LONG TERM.

2. TEXT OF APPEAL FOLLOWS:

"I HAVE THE HONOUR TO REFER TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 3054 (XXVIII) OF 17 OCTOBER 1973, CONCERNING MEASURES TO BE TAKEN FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE....., SUDANO-SAHELIAN REGION STRICKEN BY DROUGHT, A COPY OF WHICH IS ENCLOSED.

IN THAT RESOLUTION THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, INTER ALIA, REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO) TO USE THEIR EXPERIENCE WITH EMERGENCY RELIEF OPERATIONS IN THE DROUGHT AFFECTED SUDANO-SAHELIAN COUNTRIES FOR CONTINUING ADVANCE PLANNING AND THE PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE DURING 1974. IN THE RESOLUTION THE ASSEMBLY ALSO APPEALS TO GOVERNMENTS AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO GIVE THE MOST FAVOURABLE RESPONSE POSSIBLE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY A RECENT MULTI-DONOR MISSION SPONSORED BY FAO, IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE FOOD AND NUTRITIONAL NEEDS OF THE POPULATIONS OF THESE COUNTRIES ARE..... MET IN 1973-1974. A COPY OF THAT MISSION'S REPORT IS ENCLOSED.

IN ADDITION, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY URGES THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO GIVE EFFECTIVE HELP TOWARDS THE MOBILIZATION OF THE RESOURCES AND EFFORTS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND OF THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS WITH A VIEW TO THE COMPLETE AND RAPID IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PROGRAMME DECIDED ON BY THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED. IT ALSO INVITES ALL GOVERNMENTS AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO CO-OPERATE FULLY WITH THE CO-UNCLASSIFIED

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ORDINATION SYSTEM ESTABLISHED BY THE PERMANENT INTER-STATE COMMITTEE, IN LIAISON WITH THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL SAHELIAN OFFICE.

THE SPECIAL SAHELIAN OFFICE HAS BEEN WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE DROUGHT AFFECTED COUNTRIES, CONCERNED ELEMENTS OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS AND ORGANIZATIONS TO ASSIST IN THE ELABORATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE AND CO-ORDINATED UNITED NATIONS RESPONSE TO REQUESTS FROM THE REGION. DURING THE MONTHS AHEAD, MEDIUM- AND LONG-TERM PROGRAMMES TO MEET THESE REQUESTS WILL NECESSARILY REQUIRE ADDITIONAL EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE AND WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF FURTHER APPEALS. IT IS THEREFORE IMPERATIVE THAT THE HUMANITARIAN INTEREST, SUPPORT AND

ASSISTANCE TO THE SUDANO-SAHELIAN REGION BE SUSTAINED AND INTENSIFIED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO THE FULLEST EXTENT POSSIBLE.

ACCORDING TO THE FAO SPONSORED MULTI-DONOR MISSION, WHICH VISITED CHAD, MALI, MAURITANIA, NIGER, SENEGAL AND UPPER VOLTA, THE FOOD SITUATION AND THE NUTRITIONAL CONDITIONS FOR A RELATIVELY LARGE PART OF THE POPULATION, ESPECIALLY AMONG THE NOMADS, ARE STILL VERY SERIOUS. THE STATE OF SOME GROUPS, INCLUDING YOUNG CHILDREN AND OLDER PEOPLE ESPECIALLY VULNERABLE TO THE EFFECTS OF UNDERNOURISHMENT, IS CRITICAL. MEASURES FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND HEALTH ACTIVITIES RELATING TO THE DRINKING WATER SUPPLY HAVE TO BE FURTHER EXPANDED. IN SPITE OF SOME IMPROVEMENT IN THE RAINS AND THE HARVEST THIS YEAR IN SOME AREAS, LOCAL PRODUCTION WILL NOT COVER THE FOOD NEEDS OF THE ZONE, INCLUDING PROVISION FOR THE TRANSIENT POPULATION WHICH CROSSES FRONTIERS IN SEARCH OF FOOD, NOR WILL THE 1973 HARVEST ALLOW THE REPLENISHMENT OF EVEN A BARE MINIMUM OF SECURITY STOCKS. THEREFORE, EMERGENCY MEASURES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM CO-ORDINATED BY FAO THROUGH ITS OFFICE FOR THE SAHELIAN RELIEF OPERATIONS (OSRO) MUST CONTINUE AT LEAST THROUGH 1974.

THE FAO MULTI-DONOR MISSION HAS RECOMMENDED EMERGENCY INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE IN KIND DURING 1973-1974 OF APPROXIMATELY: 450,000 TONS OF CEREALS OVER AND ABOVE EXISTING COMMITMENTS AND CEREALS IN TRANSIT AND 60,000 TONS OF PROTECTIVE FOODS, INCLUDING 25,000 TONS OF MILK POWDER, 20,000 TONS OF BUTTER OIL AND 15,000 TONS OF CSM UNCLASSIFIED

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(CORN-SOYA-MILK).

AT THE SEVENTEENTH SESSION OF THE FAO CONFERENCE, HELD IN ROME IN NOVEMBER 1973, THE SIX GOVERNMENTS STATED THAT, BECAUSE OF INADEQUATE AND INTERRUPTED RAINS TOWARDS THE END OF THE CROP SEASON, THE ACTUAL HARVESTS WERE MUCH BELOW EXPECTATIONS IN SEVERAL AREAS, AND THAT THEREFORE THE TOTAL NEEDS FOR CEREALS MIGHT BE AS HIGH AS 1.2 MILLION TONS, HOWEVER, FOR IMMEDIATE PLANNING THE NET FIGURE OF 450,000 TONS OF CEREALS RECOMMENDED BY THE MISSION MAY BE TAKEN AS A WORKING BASIS, SUBJECT TO REVISION LATER, AS NECESSARY.

THE MISSION ALSO STRESSED THE NEED FOR IMPROVING STORAGE FACILITIES AND FOR PRE-POSITIONING ADEQUATE QUANTITIES OF FOOD GRAINS AND PROTECTIVE FOODS ON SITE TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF CERTAIN REMOTE AREAS WHICH HAD TO BE SUPPLIED BY COSTLY AIRLIFTS IN 1973. ANOTHER IMPORTANT RECOMMENDATION URGED THAT FAO CONTINUE THE ARRANGEMENTS TO MONITOR INCOMING FOOD SHIPMENTS TO OVERCOME TRANSPORT DIFFICULTIES.

BESIDES THE SUPPLY OF THE ABOVE MENTIONED CEREALS AND PROTECTIVE FOODS, IT IS ESTIMATED THAT A CASH REQUIREMENT US \$30 MILLION TO THE FAO SAHELIAN ZONE TRUST FUND WILL BE REQUIRED FOR THE FOLLOWING:

(IN US DOLLARS)

PURCHASE, STORAGE AND SUPPLY OF 30,000 TONS OF SEEDS	3,000,000
ACQUISITION, MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF TRUCKS	4,000,000
OTHER MEASURES AS RECOMMENDED BY THE MULTI- DONOR MISSION, INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION FOR STORAGE FACILITIES	2,000,000
UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF) PRO- GRAMMES FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND NURSING AND PREGNANT MOTHERS	6,000,000
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) PROGRAMMES, DRUGS AND MEDICAMENTS FOR THE PREVENTION OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND OTHER HEALTH MEASURES	5,000,000
ANIMAL HEALTH	4,000,000
ANIMAL FEED REQUIREMENTS	6,000,000

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE
DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF
UNCLASSIFIED

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THE UNITED NATIONS EARNESTLY HOPE THAT ALL STATES MEMBERS
OF THE UNITED NATIONS OR MEMBERS OF ASSOCIATE MEMBERS OF
SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, MANY OF WHICH HAVE ALREADY EXTENDED
GENEROUS EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE, WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL EMERGENCY
ASSISTANCE IN KIND OR IN CASH TO THE FAO SAHELIAN ZONE TRUST
FUND, TO HELP MEET THIS URGENT HUMANITARIAN NEED. CONTRIBUTIONS
IN THE CONTEXT OF THIS APPEAL MADE TO UNICEF OR WHO FOR
EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAMMES IN THE SUDANO-SAHELIAN
REGION WILL, OF COURSE, BE CREDITED TO THE DONORS."
BENNETT

UNQTE KISSINGER

UNCLASSIFIED

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 10 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISASTER RELIEF, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, UNGA RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE238135
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AF/CWR/SDE/HFARNHAM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731256/abqcekcp.tel
Line Count: 200
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN AID
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Aug-2001 by damankm0>; APPROVED <26-Dec-2001 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECRETARY-GENERAL'S APPEAL FOR FAO SAHELIAN ZONE DROUGHT FUND
TAGS: SWEL, XA, UN
To: OTTAWA
LONDON
PARIS
BRUSSELS
BONN
MOSCOW
PEKING

EC BRUSSELS
HONG KONG
TOKYO
WELLINGTON

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005